

Message Text

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SUBJECT- POMPIDOU SUMMIT PROPOSAL

1. FOLLOWING IS INR ASSESSMENT OF POMPIDOU EC SUMMIT PROPOSAL.

2. EUROPEAN COMMUNITY GOVERNMENTS HAVE AGREED TO POMPIDOU'S OCTOBER 31 PROPOSAL FOR A SUMMIT MEETING, AND HAVE ACCEPTED DANISH OFFER TO HOST IT DECEMBER 14, 15 IN COPENHAGEN. POMPIDOU'S SUGGESTION, CONTAINED IN LETTERS TO OTHER COMMUNITY GOVERNMENTS, WAS REITERATED IN A PUBLIC STATEMENT WHICH CRITICIZED EUROPE'S EXCLUSION FROM EFFORTS TO SETTLE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS.

3. PROPOSAL. POMPIDOU SAID IT WAS "INDISPENSABLE" TO "PUT TO THE TEST" EUROPEAN SOLIDITY AND URGED THERE BE REGULAR SUMMIT MEETINGS OF EC NATIONAL LEADERS IN THE POLITICAL AREA. THE FIRST SUCH EC SUMMIT -- TO BE HELD BE-
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FORE THE END OF 1973 -- COULD DECIDE ON PROCEDURES FOR

CALLING URGENT MEETINGS IN CASE OF CRISIS.

4. MIDEAST CONFLICT OBVIOUSLY PROVIDED PARIS WITH RIGHT OCCASION TO HIGHLIGHT THE NEED FOR STEP FORESHADOWED IN POMPIDOU'S SEPTEMBER 27 PRESS CONFERENCE, AND ENDORSED BY

HEATH AND BRANDT AT THEIR OCTOBER 6-7 MEETING.

5. REACTION. INITIAL EC RESPONSE TO POMPIDOU "CRISIS MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE" WAS FAVORABLE. SUGGESTION DID EVOKE CONCERN, PARTICULARLY IN NETHERLANDS AND GERMANY, THAT REGULAR SUMMIT MEETINGS COULD DENIGRATE THE ROLES OF PRESENT EC INSTITUTIONS, AND, IN FACT, MOST EC GOVERNMENTS APPEAR TO OPPOSE IDEA OF INSTITUTIONALIZING SUMMITRY.

6. MEETING NOVEMBER 6 IN BRUSSELS, EC-9 FOREIGN MINISTERS AGREED THAT DURING UPCOMING NOVEMBER 20 POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS IN COPENHAGEN THEY WOULD DISCUSS COMPOSITION, PREPARATION, AND AGENDA FOR THE MID-DECEMBER SUMMIT. THE SUMMIT PROPOSAL IS CERTAIN TO BE ALSO HIGH ON AGENDA OF POMPIDOU BILATERAL MEETINGS WITH HEATH AT CHEQUERS NOVEMBER 16, 17, AND WITH CHANCELLOR BRANDT AT PARIS IN EITHER LATE NOVEMBER OR EARLY DECEMBER.

7. EC GOVERNMENTS REPROTEDLY HAVE REJECTED FRENCH IDEA THAT THE MEETING BE ATTENDED ONLY BY CHIEFS OF STATE OR HEADS OF GOVERNMENT. THEY HAVE ALSO INSISTED ON ADVANCE PREPARATORY WORK FOR SUCH A MEETING, WHICH FRENCH DID NOT FAVOR. JORGENSEN, FOR EXAMPLE, HAS PROPOSED THAT THE "OIL CRISIS" BE LISTED AS POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEM ALONGSIDE THE BROAD POLITICAL ISSUES POMPIDOU HAS IN MIND. BONN ALSO DISAGREED WITH IDEA OF RESTRICTING SUCH SUMMITS TO FOREIGN POLICY MATTERS.

8. SUMMIT FOCUS. THE FOCUS OF THE DECEMBER EC SUMMIT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE MIDDLE EAST AND THE TRANS-ATLANTIC ALLIANCE. OTHER COMMUNITY ISSUES MAY ALSO COME UP.

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9. COMMENT. FRENCH POLICY CONTINUES TO OFFER OBSTACLES TO EUROPEAN INTEGRATION BY ITS INSISTENCE ON A CLEAR SEPARATION OF COMMUNITY ECONOMIC COOPERATION FROM ATTEMPTS TO "HARMONIE" POLITICAL VIEWS IN A MORE CONFEDERAL-TYPE ARRANGEMENT. YET, WE AGREE WITH EMBASSY PARIS THAT THE POMPIDOU MOVE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF WEST EUROPEAN DISSATISFACTION WITH THE NATO CONSULTATIVE PROCESS COULD PROPEL EC SUMMITRY AS THE PRIMARY FORUM FOR EUROPEAN

POLITICAL AND SECURITY CONSULTATIONS. THIS DEVELOPMENT HAS LONG BEEN ON THE HORIZON, SEEMINGLY NEEDING A CRISIS TO MOVE ALONG. INCREASED HIGH-LEVEL COMMUNITY FOREIGN POLICY CONSULTATIONS, WHETHER INSTITUTIONALIZED OR NOT, COULD THEN IN TIME LEAD TO A MORE POLITICALLY INTEGRATED EUROPE. RUSH

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